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## Regional Public Health Meetings

*by Teri Caudle, RN, PHN, Local Public Health Program  
Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



The 2017 regional public health meetings are designed to connect local health departments with programs and best practices that will benefit the work you do within your communities. The agenda for the first quarter includes a variety of topics: Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program and Bureau of Family Health (BFH) Updates, Dave Thomason, Deputy Director, BFH; More Choices, More Progress, a presentation from the WSU Community Engagement Institute Staff; and Pregnancy Maintenance Initiative with Catholic Charities. Register on [KS-TRAIN](#), Course ID#1068038.

The dates and locations for the meetings are:

- South Central Region, Hutchinson, February 1
- Southwest Region, Garden City, February 8
- Northwest Region, Oakley, February 9
- North Central Region, Beloit, March 1
- Northeast Region, Topeka, March 14

If you have ideas for regional meeting topics please contact Teri Caudle at [teri.caudle@ks.gov](mailto:teri.caudle@ks.gov)

## Kansas Accreditation Readiness Project's Annual Summit 2017

*By Sonja Armbruster - Center for Public Health Initiatives, WSU and  
Cristi Cain - Bureau of Community Health Systems, KDHE*



The Kansas Accreditation Readiness Project (KARP) will hold a summit on Friday, March 10, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Kansas Health Institute in Topeka. The summit will be an opportunity for local health departments to better understand how they may use the accreditation process to develop practices and strategies to become a high performing health department. Participants will learn more about recent updates to the accreditation process, ongoing accreditation work in Kansas and the pre-requisite requirements for accreditation.

All past KARP participants and local health departments are invited to attend. Each agency may bring up to five staff members. Participants must register for the event by Tuesday, February 28 on [KS-TRAIN](#), Course ID #1068425. Please view [the flyer](#) for more information about the event. Please contact Jessica Fiscus with questions or concerns at 316-978-3790 or [Jessica.Fiscus@wichita.edu](mailto:Jessica.Fiscus@wichita.edu).

## Oral Health Kansas Launches New Fluoride in Kansas Website

*by Oral Health Kansas*



Oral Health Kansas is excited to announce the official launch of the newly revamped [Fluoride in Kansas website](#). The goal for the new website is to provide visitors an easier way to learn about community water fluoridation. The new website is interactive and gives better access to Kansas county data, champions around the state, the history of community water fluoridation in Kansas as well as fun facts to share with friends.

New site features include integrated social media buttons for Facebook and Twitter to foster improved communication. Oral Health Kansas will continue to update the site content with helpful information, articles, blogs, newsletters, and community successes. The intent is to establish this portal as a source of information for those who use the site.

For any questions, suggestions, feedback or comments, please contact [Oral Health Kansas](#).

## Preparedness Training Opportunities Updated on KS-TRAIN

*by KS-TRAIN and KDEM*



Please visit the Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM) training information on the [KS-TRAIN Calendar](#) or the [KDEM Training Calendar](#) for a full list of upcoming learning opportunities. New sessions for G300 and G400 have been added for March and April. New training sites include Hoisington, Wamego and Andover. Remember when you enroll in G300 and G400 courses, KDEM will be reviewing your TRAIN Transcript for listings of the Emergency Management Institute required Independent Study courses: 700, 100, 200 and 800. Click here to view [FEMA IS Completion Instructions](#).

## National Ebola Training & Education Center's Emerging Infectious Disease Preparedness Training - March 21 & 22



by KDHE Preparedness Program

The [National Ebola Training & Education Center](#) (NETEC) is hosting a [training](#) in Omaha for public health professionals and healthcare workers on preparedness skills for emerging infectious diseases on March 21 - 22. NETEC is comprised of faculty and staff from Emory University, the University of Nebraska Medical Center/Nebraska Medicine and the New York City Health and Hospitals, Bellevue. All three of these healthcare institutions have safely and successfully treated patients with Ebola and have worked diligently over the past two years to share their knowledge with other healthcare facilities and public health jurisdictions. They will bring this expertise to the two-day training.

The [training](#) will provide information and tools on the many aspects of managing and maintaining readiness of facilities responsible for assessing or treating patients with an emerging infectious disease. This includes an overview of various pathogens of concern, standard operating procedures for such pathogens, leadership skills for sustaining readiness, state and regional CONOPS planning, exercise development, a train the trainer program for personal protective equipment (PPE) and a simulation of clinical care skills in PPE.

The two-day training will include breakout sessions. Attendees must choose their breakout sessions during registration. The clinical track will include simulation skills stations where participants will remain in their PPE for up to 4 hours. NETEC request attendees travel with their facility-specific PPE to ensure the skills are practiced with their own equipment and PPE protocols. All attendees are encouraged to bring their laptops and electronic devices.

- Day 1 Breakout: Attendees may choose either the Clinical Track or the Leadership Track. Only 32 participants may register for the Clinical Track and they will stay in the breakout for 4 hours. Running concurrently is the Leadership Track, where participants will attend 2-two hour sessions. The first session will focus on easy tools and strategies to use for success, including applying leadership principles to preparedness. The second session will be a train the trainer session for PPE.
- Day 2 Breakout: Attendees may choose either the Clinical Track or the Emergency Management Track. The Clinical Track will cover the same content as the first day; attendees cannot attend the Clinical Track both days. The Emergency Management Track will include an introduction to all-hazards emergency management and healthcare incident command system, developing and implementing concepts of operations, an exercise workshop and more.

There is no tuition cost for this training. Agencies that receive the Ebola Supplemental Funding through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) could cover travel expenses, lodging and meals with this funding. Previous Kansan attendees have reported that the training was very informative and enjoyable. Please contact the KDHE Preparedness Program with questions regarding approval for travel expenses. More information about the training is available in the [brochure](#). Register for the training [online](#).

## KanCare Ombudsman Education Calls



WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT  
INSTITUTE

by Percy Turner, Project Specialist,

IMPACT Center - Community Engagement Institute

The KanCare Ombudsman office is a free, unbiased and confidential program that uses trained community volunteers to answer questions about Medicaid and related issues. The goal is to educate and assist Kansas Medicaid members in navigating the Medicaid system and to assist in the resolution of issues they may be having with their managed care organizations (MCOs), providers, state agencies, or the KanCare Clearinghouse. This includes Medicaid members with long term care services, such as nursing homes and Home and Community Based Services (HCBS).

In efforts to reach as many KanCare recipients and professionals working alongside KanCare recipients, the KanCare Ombudsman currently hosts Biweekly Education calls for volunteers covering KanCare programs, and Biweekly Lunch and Learn calls, covering MCO issues, KanCare changes/updates, and other relevant topics for consumers and providers. Please call 316-978-3566 for more information regarding these informative sessions. Please contact [Kerrie Bacon](#) to be added to these calls or for any further information about the Ombudsman's office or KanCare.

## Trauma-Informed Systems Highlight of Kansas MCH Council January Meeting

by Kansas Maternal & Child Health Council



Members of the Kansas Maternal Child Health Council gathered on January 11 to learn more about Trauma-Informed Systems of Care (TISC) and initiatives in the region to become more trauma-informed. The meeting, facilitated by the KDHE Bureau of Family Health and the Wichita State University Center for Public Health

Initiatives, included individual and panel presentations from regional education, social service and medical practitioners who are leading efforts to implement TISC in their respective organizations and communities. Presenters included: Dr. Renaisa Anthony, Deputy Director of the Center for Reducing Health Disparities at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha; ResilientKC ambassador, Celestine Muhammad; Dena Sneed, Occupational Therapist, Registered, Licensed (OTR/L) from Truman Medical Center Behavioral Health; and Dr. Tiffany Anderson, Superintendent of the Topeka Public School District. The MCH Council also participated in discussions about the opportunities and barriers to implementing TISC in their own organizations and received resources for future exploration. For more information about the meeting and to access resources that were shared, please visit <http://www.kansasmch.org/meetings.asp>.

## Sunflower Foundation Announces Project HERO Awards

*by Sunflower Foundation*



The Sunflower Foundation has announced a statewide \$120,000 pilot project focused on supporting community-based strategies to address food access needs in rural areas, such as strengthening local grocery stores. The pilot, called Project HERO - Healthy Eating: Rural Opportunities, will initially fund planning efforts in eight communities, totaling \$120,000. The planning grants are intended to provide community teams with the resources and technical assistance needed to explore and develop sustainable strategies for increasing access to healthy foods. Two local health departments are key leaders of two of the coalitions awarded grants.

Multiple communities and counties were identified that either met the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) definition of a food desert, or would meet the definition if a remaining grocery store were to close. As part of the invitation to apply, each community group was asked to assemble a leadership team representing a wide array of stakeholders if one didn't already exist.

The planning projects are intended to set the stage for successful implementation with a two-pronged approach: assessing and studying technical data for long-term feasibility, while also gathering community input to foster local buy-in. In some communities, this means transitioning a struggling grocery store into a non-profit co-op model, or boosting the store's revenue by connecting purchasing to the school and hospital. Other communities are focusing on the local food systems and what it takes to actually get fresh produce into a grocery store or micro-markets for towns without stores.

The eight HERO grantees, including coalitions with two local health departments, include:

- Eat Well Crawford County, working with Crawford County Health Department, focusing on the eight towns in Crawford County without grocery stores.
- Harvey County Food & Farm Council, working with Harvey County Health Department, focusing on Harvey County as a whole.
- Western Prairie Food, Farm & Community Alliance, working with the Western Prairie Resource, Conservation & Development District, representing eight counties in northwest Kansas (Cheyenne, Decatur, Logan, Rawlins, Sheridan, Sherman, Thomas and Wallace).
- GROW Hodgeman, working with the Hodgeman County Economic Resource Development Council, focusing on Jetmore and Hanston.
- Allen County GROW, working with Thrive Allen County, focusing on Moran.
- Southern Marion County Healthy Partnerships, working with Peabody Main St. USA, focusing on Peabody and Burns.
- Community Enhancement Foundation Of Plains, focusing on Plains (Meade County).
- St. John Task Force for Grocery Store Access, working with Stafford County Economic Development, focusing on St. John.

## FEMA Student ID Numbers Now Required for Independent Study and KDEM Training

*by KDEM*



Starting January 2017, the Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM) will require all training participants to have a [FEMA Student Identification System \(SID\)](#) number on file in their KS-TRAIN user profile. Please see the [flyer with instructions](#) on how to get your FEMA SID and how to enter it in your KS-TRAIN profile. A FEMA SID is required to register for and participate in any training provided by FEMA. All FEMA training providers' registration systems and enrollment procedures require a valid FEMA SID. The FEMA SID will serve as your unique identifier and be used to maintain the record of FEMA training you attended. To register or access your FEMA SID [click here](#).

In the near future, KDEM will be using your FEMA SID as your personal identification in an effort to help you keep better track of all your trainings in one central transcript including in-state, and out-of-state trainings provided by FEMA and other approved vendors. To contact the KDEM staff call, 785-646-1412 or email Isabel Herrera at [maria.i.herrera13.nfg@mail.mil](mailto:maria.i.herrera13.nfg@mail.mil).

If you have an inquiry regarding the FEMA Independent Study Program, NIMS or other EMI related requests, e.g. certificates, transcripts, & online test results, contact the FEMA Independent Study program office at 301-447-1200 or email [Independent.Study@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Independent.Study@fema.dhs.gov) for assistance. Please do not contact the FEMA SID Help Desk in regards to the Independent Study Program as they are unable to provide assistance with these requests.

## Kansas Accreditation Readiness Project's Webinars Domains 1 - 12

*by Sonja Armbruster - Center for Public Health Initiatives, Wichita State University*



The Center for Public Health Initiatives at Wichita State University has developed 12 extremely short webinars, only ten minutes each, to review each domain of the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) standards and measures. These could be helpful as an orientation to public health for new staff or students. To view these webinars, please visit [KS-TRAIN](#) or see them from the new Community Engagement Institute [webpage](#).

## Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System

by Lisa Williams, Kansas PRAMS Project Coordinator



The Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) is a random, population-based survey system of maternal behaviors and experiences before, during and shortly after pregnancy. New to Kansas, but well established in many states in the country, PRAMS data will provide information to help shape policy and programs in Kansas related to improving maternal and child health.

The 80 question survey covers a wide variety of topics including: pregnancy intention; prenatal healthcare (including physical, mental and dental); mom's behavior during pregnancy; support available to the pregnant woman; postpartum care; sleep position and habits of the baby; and many other topics that lead to improved health of mothers and babies in Kansas.

The Kansas PRAMS team has developed the processes and protocol for collecting the data from a random sample of approximately 1,700 women per year in Kansas that have given live birth within the past three months. The survey is administered via mail and if no response, phone. The first questionnaires will be mailed out in April. The sample will include women who had a baby in January 2017.

It is important that the women randomly selected to receive the survey take the time to complete it. The data will be used by Kansas PRAMS staff and their partners to improve the health of the maternal and child health population in the state. Kansas PRAMS staff request the support of local health departments and other partner agencies in encouraging women to complete and return the questionnaire to tell the story of their baby's birth.

Information on Kansas PRAMS can be found at <http://www.kdheks.gov/prams> or by calling the Kansas PRAMS Project Coordinator at 844-353-9249.

## Healthy People 2020 Midcourse Review

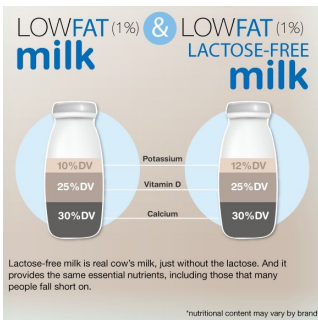
by National Center for Health Statistics



The National Center for Health Statistics' Health Promotion Statistics (HPS) Branch is very pleased to announce the successful web launch of the *Healthy People 2020 Midcourse Review (MCR)*. This 820-page publication contains a wealth of information covering over 1000 objectives, 42 topic areas and important population groups of interest. All chapters of the *Healthy People 2020 Midcourse Review (MCR)* are available for download in PDF form [online](#). Highlights of the MCR progress data are available in compelling and user-friendly infographics on [HealthyPeople.gov](http://HealthyPeople.gov). In addition, a NCHS blog post with Questions and Answers on the MCR with Health Promotion Statistics Branch Chief David Huang can be found [online](#).

## Dietary Tips for Lactose Intolerance

by Midwest Dairy Council



Giving up some of your favorite foods can be difficult [if you have or think you have lactose intolerance](#). Fortunately, there are [many tips and solutions](#) to help you incorporate milk, cheese and yogurt back into your diet. One way is to try lactose-free milk. But what is lactose-free milk? The Midwest Dairy Council understands that there's some confusion about what lactose-free milk is and isn't, and wants to help. For example, some believe lactose-free milk is dairy-free. In fact, lactose-free milk is real cow's milk - just like the milk you grew up with - without the lactose. Basically that means that the lactose, a natural sugar found in milk, has been removed. Other than that, lactose-free milk provides the same essential nutrients, such as calcium, protein, vitamin D and potassium. Lactose-free milk also tastes slightly sweeter than regular milk because the lactose is broken down into simple sugars. As a result, it makes

a great addition to cereal, coffee, cocoa and more. Find more lactose intolerance facts [here](#).

## APHA Launches National Public Health Week 2017 - April 3 - 9



The American Public Health Association (APHA) is excited to announce the launch of National Public Health Week (NPHW). This year's campaign will take place April 3 - 9 and is themed "Healthiest Nation 2030." [Visit the website](#) to view this year's brochure and sign up for updates. Follow APHA on [Twitter](#) for the latest news. As part of this year's campaign, APHA will once again be leading a challenge to encourage communities to get physically active. APHA's 1 Billion Steps Challenge launched on January 9 and is a great way to improve your health while having fun. This year participants can create their own team. Join APHA in celebrating public health as they work to make the U.S. the healthiest nation in one generation. Affiliate and component leaders are encouraged to collaborate on NPHW activities. Share your activities and learn about others' plans through the NPHW Collaboration [document](#).



## ACCREDITATION CORNER

### PHAB Releases Reaccreditation Standards & Measures



The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) has released the [Guide to National Public Health Department Reaccreditation Process and Requirements](#). The Guide includes the official requirements and process for the reaccreditation of public health departments. The Guide pertains to accredited health departments that submitted their application for initial accreditation on or before June 30, 2016.

PHAB reaccreditation builds on initial accreditation, but it is very different. Both the requirements and the process for reaccreditation have been designed to ensure that accredited health departments continue to evolve, improve, and advance, thereby becoming increasingly effective at improving the health of the population they serve.

The [Guide to National Public Health Department Reaccreditation: Process and Requirements](#) contains the following:

- Description of the reaccreditation process: The process for a health department to be reaccredited is similar to initial accreditation but it is more efficient with shorter timeframes and a virtual site visit. It will continue to be a peer-reviewed process. Like the process for initial accreditation, it was designed to encourage ongoing quality improvement.
- The new Reaccreditation Standards and Measures: The Standards and Measures for reaccreditation move away from demonstrating that the health department has capacities and instead focuses on the use of those capacities, accountability and continuous quality improvement.
- Description of the Population Health Outcomes Reporting requirement: The purpose of this requirement is for PHAB to begin to establish a national database of selected health outcomes and their associated objectives that accredited health departments have chosen to monitor. The Guide explains the purpose and process for the mandatory Population Health Outcomes Reporting.

Similar to the Initial Accreditation fee structure that went into effect on July 1, 2016, the reaccreditation fees will have a Reaccreditation Review Fee for the first year and then an ongoing Annual Accreditation Services Fee for each year thereafter. For future reaccreditation cycles, the health department will not pay an additional Reaccreditation Review Fee, as its cost will be included in the Annual Accreditation Services Fee. More information on the fees and what they cover can be found at [online](#).

### PHAB Webinar - Reaccreditation Process - February 9



The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) will host a webinar focusing on the reaccreditation process on February 9, 12 p.m. This webinar is for anyone interested in learning about the reaccreditation process and requirements. In the spring of 2017, PHAB will release a webinar specifically for health departments applying for reaccreditation. Webinar participants are encouraged to review the process for reaccreditation and the reaccreditation standards and measures before the webinar. Register for the webinar [online](#).

# SAVE THE DATE

## KANSAS GOVERNOR'S PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE

# APRIL 25-27, 2017

HILTON GARDEN INN  
410 S. 3RD ST.  
MANHATTAN, KS






QUESTIONS? CALL (316) 978.6493  
OR VISIT [WWW.WICHITA.EDU/CONFERENCES/PUBLICHEALTH](http://WWW.WICHITA.EDU/CONFERENCES/PUBLICHEALTH)

## Funding Opportunities

### Emerging Leaders in Public Health - Deadline February 6

*by the Kresge Foundation*



The Kresge Foundation is accepting applications for the second cohort of the Emerging Leaders in Public Health initiative. Emerging Leaders in Public Health is designed to develop local public health leaders in pairs. This team of leaders challenge and support each other, and build skills and competencies together. Each team is composed of a health officer or the top leader in the organization collaborating with a co-leader that has been identified as an emerging leader from the same organization. The team embarks on an 18-month, action-oriented experience to undertake projects designed to enhance organizational and leadership competencies in business, planning and public health systems development. This initiative equips local public health officers with knowledge and skills to transform the role of public health in their community.

In addition to receiving leadership coaching and development, each team will receive a grant of up to \$125,000 to develop and implement a transformative concept designed to deliver a new model of public health for its community. A transformative concept points to a new role for public health in the community. For example, the concept may:

- Involve development of new products, new services, or the use of products or services in a transformational way
- Outline a new strategy for achieving health goals
- Serve to incubate new models/relationships/leadership in the community
- Intervene to improve data and/or workforce infrastructure

A transformative concept describes an inspiring vision, a future state, or a description of what success looks like for a community and an agency. It features what if ideas for how to get to that future success, even if the ideas are preliminary and conceptual. A transformative concept does not jump to conclusions. Resources and support will be provided to solve problems and execute the transformative concept as a part of the Emerging Leaders in Public Health initiative.

The application period for the second cohort of the Emerging Leaders in Public Health initiative opens on January 4 and closes on February 6. Interested applicants are encouraged to start the application process early. In order to apply for Emerging Leaders in Public Health, complete the [Statement of Interest Form](#) to receive a unique online application form. An [application packet](#) is available containing an overview of the initiative, a sample application form and Frequently Asked Questions. More information about the initiative is available [online](#).

### Capacity Building Grants - Deadline February 15



**Sunflower Foundation**  
HEALTH CARE FOR KANSANS

The Sunflower Foundation is now accepting proposals for Capacity Building grants. Sunflower invites nonprofit organizations providing health care and prevention services to low income, uninsured and other vulnerable populations in Kansas to submit proposals aligned with this funding initiative. Funds provided through this opportunity will support implementation of short-term strategies that build core organizational strength by increasing effectiveness, efficiency, quality, safety, impact or sustainability. Sunflower plans to award one-year grants of up to \$30,000 to address organizational needs in three priority areas:

- Technology - support for upgrades and enhancements to information technology systems, digital data and infrastructure, communication technologies, as well as the development of staff skills to use technology to facilitate the work of the organization.
- Training and education - support talent development for all staff, enhance board leadership skills, organizational planning assessment and strategy development, skills to create and sustain strategic relationships and fund development.
- Media messaging and communication - support to enhance the organization's overall capacity to communicate its mission and expand its reach through social media and robust website.

Preference will be given to nonprofit organizations who predominantly serve vulnerable populations, do not have significant resources and are classified as one of the following:

- Safety net organization;
- Health and social service organization whose primary focus is health equity, social justice or addressing the social and economic factors that influence people's health;
- Local health department/public health organization; and
- Aging or disability organization.

Further information on this funding opportunity is available in the [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#). A recording of an [informational webinar](#) about the RFP is available [online](#). Please direct any questions regarding this RFP to Brandon Skidmore at [bskidmore@sunflowerfoundation.org](mailto:bskidmore@sunflowerfoundation.org). Applications must be submitted through the [online application portal](#) by February 15, 5 p.m.

### Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Culture of Health Leaders - Deadline February 15



The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is accepting applications for the Culture of Health Leaders program through February 15. The Culture of Health Leaders is a national leadership development program that offers intensive learning opportunities with some of today's foremost health and equity experts, connects them with a new, larger network of like-minded change agents and provides an opportunity to rejuvenate by taking a small step back from their day-to-day work. Over the course of the three-year program, participants will:

- Receive an annual stipend of \$20,000 per person for three consecutive years.
- Develop high-level leadership skills through professional coaching, networking and an advanced leadership curriculum, including up to four in-person leadership sessions reinforced by distance-based learning using interactive technology.
- Create an individual leadership plan that includes self-assessment, leadership development goals and plans for continued growth and impact after the program is completed.
- Continue working in their home communities and applying new learnings in real time.
- Network and become a part of a national group of leaders.
- Receive high-touch executive coaching from national leaders in areas such as futures and change management, health equity and social innovation.
- Initiate a bold Culture of Health project in the third year of the program.

Those interested in applying can learn more about the program online, including a program [fact sheet](#), a [recording](#) of a webinar and answers to [frequently asked questions](#). In order to apply, applicants must be highly motivated, willing to collaborate across sectors, have a strong record of formal or informal leadership experiences and have a desire to deepen their leadership experience. In addition to answering questions regarding leadership experience and vision, applicants will need to develop a personal video of 3 minutes or less to provide a glimpse into the challenges within the applicant's community and the opportunities to build a Culture of Health. More information about the application process is available [online](#).

### NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program - Deadline February 23



The NURSE Corps Loan Repayment Program (LRP) is administered by the Bureau of Health Workforce (BHW) in the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The NURSE Corps LRP offers both registered nurses (RNs) and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) substantial financial assistance to repay a portion of their qualifying educational loans in exchange for full-time service either at a Critical Shortage Facility (CSF) or an eligible school of nursing. The goal of the NURSE Corps LRP is to decrease the economic barriers associated with pursuing careers at CSFs or in academic nursing.

There are a number of requirements an applicant must meet to be considered eligible for the program, including being employed as a full-time RN or APRN working at least 32 hours per week at a public or private nonprofit CSF or be employed as a full-time nurse faculty member at a public or private nonprofit, eligible school of nursing. HRSA is offering a technical assistance conference call for this opportunity on February 16, 6 - 9 p.m. Participants are encouraged to read the [Application and Program Guidance](#) and view the on-demand [webinar](#) prior to participating in the conference call. To participate in the conference call, participants will use the dial-in number 800-369-1747 and the participant passcode 4128441. Additional information about the program is available [online](#).

### Health and Disability Technical Assistance Program - Deadline February 28



The National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) is accepting applications from local health departments for the Health and Disability Technical Assistance Program. This initiative is designed to support local health departments (LHDs) seeking to increase inclusivity and accessibility for people with disabilities in their programs, products and services. Through this program, NACCHO staff will provide participating LHDs with assistance on a variety of topics related to public health including emergency planning and health promotion programming.

Applications take approximately 10 minutes to complete and are reviewed on a rolling basis. Upon receipt of each application, NACCHO will set up an initial consultation call to further discuss the application and any additional related needs. As a result, NACCHO and LHD staff will work collaboratively to identify action-items and appropriate tools and resources to address the LHD's unique needs.

In addition to receiving direct NACCHO staff support and a variety of tools and resources, each LHD participant is provided with a summary report of NACCHO's findings and recommendations. Previous technical assistance recipients have indicated this feedback was instrumental to advancing the inclusion of people with disabilities within their emergency response plans.

The [application](#) must be completed [online](#) by February 28. Please contact [Sara Lyons](#), NACCHO Program Analyst for Health and Disability, with any additional questions or inquiries.

### Scholarships for Healthcare Badges are Now Available - Deadline February 28



Save 50 percent off the cost of any badge! Enroll in a badge course by February 28 and receive a \$50 scholarship that will be applied to a \$100 badge course. Scholarships are limited to 1 per person.

Wichita State University's online Badge courses are designed for busy professionals looking to increase their knowledge and gain new skills. Topic areas include Public Health, Breastfeeding and American Sign Language. For a complete listing of available courses visit: [badges.wichita.edu/badgcatalog](https://badges.wichita.edu/badgcatalog).

What is the Badge Advantage?

- Badges are online so you can work from the comfort of your home.
- Students can earn 0.5 credit hours for successful completion of each badge.
- Coursework is divided into specific topic areas making the workload easier to manage and more affordable.
- Badges can be completed at your own pace.
- Professionals may be able to use time spent on badges as contact hours toward relicensure.

Visit the [badges.wichita.edu](https://badges.wichita.edu) for more details. For questions, contact Keshia Ezerendu at 316-978-7579 or [workforce@wichita.edu](mailto:workforce@wichita.edu).

### Call for Proposals - 21st Century Public Health Innovations Program - Deadline March 1



The Public Health National Center for Innovations (PHNCI), with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is offering a [funding opportunity](#) to support public health departments with innovations that are ready for development, testing, or adaption and adoption. Program awards will range from \$50,000 -

\$200,000.

Public health innovation refers to the development of a new process, policy, product, or program that increases quality, impact and efficiency. Innovations are one step in transforming public health practice. For the purposes of this [Call for Proposals](#), public health innovation must:

- be novel, new, or creative;
- reflect the dynamic state of change inherent in public health transformation;
- occur by internal or cross-sector collaboration;
- involve co-production of the process, policy, product, or program with partners, stakeholders, or customers;
- have the potential to generate a new or improved means to create value;
- lend itself to adaptation and adoption, replication and diffusion;
- generate real-time information for evaluation and course correction; and
- if related to technology, use open source technology (i.e., the technology is in the public domain) so as to facilitate adaption, adoption and replication.

PHNCI will use a proposal submission process that will progress in two phases. The first phase will require brief proposals to be submitted by March 1, 2 p.m. These brief proposals must be no more than four pages and should include the following components:

- Description of the innovation, the characteristics of innovation it embodies and how the work would transform public health practice and/or health outcomes.
- Brief narrative on work to date on the innovation, its current stage (i.e., development, testing and/or adapting and adopting) and the activities supported by project funds.
- Brief budget narrative that proposes how the project funds would be used, including support for travel to learning community meetings and hosting a site visit.

Eligibility criteria for the award are outlined in the Call for Proposals, including requirements such as:

- Be a state or local government agency or a non-profit organization working with state or local health departments.
- Include a project team that involves collaboration with at least one-cross sector partner.

Applicants are encouraged to log in to the system and familiarize themselves with the online submission requirements well before the submission deadline. Further information about the funding opportunity is available in the [Call for Proposals](#). Inquiries regarding this opportunity should be directed to Travis Parker Lee at [info@phnci.org](mailto:info@phnci.org) or 703-778-4549 extension 102.



### Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Webinar

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Webinar on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. The next webinar will be February 28. To view minutes from the monthly calls, click the KDHE logo.



### Funding Opportunity for Public Water Systems - Deadline March 1



The National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is pleased to offer a funding opportunity for Public Water Systems to either replace aging water fluoridation equipment or implement new equipment for the fluoridation of community water. Eligible grantees include:

- State or Local Government Entities;
- Oral Health Coalitions;
- Rural Water Associations;
- State Affiliates of Rural Water Associations;
- State Dental Organizations; and
- Other organizations affiliated with public community water systems.

Selected Public Water Systems will receive funding covering costs of equipment purchase as well as technical assistance related to equipment recommendations, coordination with other entities and other areas as needed. This one-time funding can be used only for capital improvements associated with purchasing or replacing aging water fluoridation.

Applicants in areas that had to cease fluoridation due to funding restraints or have failing or aging equipment and no sufficient funds for replacements are encouraged to apply. To be considered, eligible entities must complete the [application](#) by March 1.

Please direct any questions regarding this request for funding to [Lindsay Beattie](#), NACCHO Program Analyst.

### Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Clinical Scholars - Deadline March 8



The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is accepting applications for the Clinical Scholars program. This program prepares and supports small teams of clinicians, from a range of disciplines, to lead transformative change in their communities. Clinical Scholars is a leadership development opportunity for practitioners from diverse fields of health care to partner across sectors to tackle complex health problems in their communities and build a Culture of Health nationwide. Over the course of the three-year program, teams will:

- Receive an annual fellowship of \$35,000 per fellow - which can be used to cover salary, program costs, expenses for other team members and more - for three consecutive years.
- Design and implement a real-world project.
- Develop high-level leadership skills through professional coaching, networking and an advanced leadership curriculum, including seven in-person leadership sessions reinforced by distance-based learning using interactive technology.
- Continue working in their home communities and applying new learnings in real time.
- Network and become part of a national group of leaders spanning clinical specialties, thematic areas of interest and regions.
- Receive high-touch mentoring and executive coaching from national leaders in clinical practice, health equity, public policy and advocacy.
- Present the results of their project in several settings, including a TED-style talk.

More information about the program, application requirements and the [application process](#) is available [online](#). All applications must be submitted by March 8.

### USDA Local Food Promotion Program - Deadline March 27



The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is requesting applications for the Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP). LFPP's purpose is to increase domestic consumption of and access to locally and regionally produced agricultural products and to develop new market opportunities for farm and ranch operations serving local markets by developing, improving, expanding, and providing outreach, training, and technical assistance to, or assisting in the development, improvement, and expansion of local and regional food businesses (including those that are not direct producer-to-consumer markets) that process, distribute, aggregate, or store locally or regionally produced food products.

Eligible applicants include local governments, regional farmers' markets authorities, agricultural businesses, agricultural cooperatives, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) networks, CSA associations, economic development corporations, nonprofit corporations, producer networks, producer associations, public benefit corporations and Tribal governments. LFPP planning grant awards range from \$25,000 to \$100,000. LFPP implementation grant awards range from \$100,000 to \$500,000. An applicant is limited to one LFPP award in a funding year. LFPP funding will be available for use beginning September 30, 2017. Applicants are required to have a 25 percent cash or in-kind funding match. The application package includes a number of requirements and those interested in applying are encouraged to begin the application process early. Further information about this funding opportunity and the application requirements is available in the [Request for Applications](#).

### Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing Grants Available - Deadline March 31



The Center for Sharing Public Health Services is offering up to five small grants to organizations that wish to explore, plan, implement or improve some aspects of cross-jurisdictional sharing (CJS) in public health. The opportunity is available for public health agencies, organizations representing policymakers with the authority to enter into CJS agreements or their designated agents. Proposals must fall into one of two categories:

- Proposals focused on the implementation of a specific CJS arrangement among multiple jurisdictions
- Proposals that are not linked to a specific CJS arrangement but otherwise contribute to the achievement of the Center's goals, which are described within the [call for proposals](#).

Eligible applicants focused on the implementation of a specific CJS arrangement must include a minimum of three jurisdictions of any size, or two jurisdictions if the combined population is 50,000 or greater. The jurisdictional size limit does not apply if the arrangement includes at least one tribe, includes a state health department or is between two frontier counties.

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis from January 2 until March 31, or until all five small grants are awarded, whichever comes first. Awards will be up to \$10,000 for a project period of six months. More information about this opportunity is available on the Center for Sharing Public Health Services' [website](#).

## Training and Conference Announcements



### Social Media in Health Care Bootcamp - February 2

Kansas University Medical Center Area Health Education Center (AHEC) will be offering a series of webinars throughout 2017 as a part of its Brown Bag Webinar Practice Management Series. All webinars will be held at 12 - 1 p.m. The first webinar cluster of the Practice Management Series will be the [Social Media in Health Care Bootcamp](#). The webinar sessions will be held on February 2, 9, 16 and 23 and on March 2. For more information on the Brown Bag Webinar Series or to register contact the AHEC Statewide Office at 620-235-4040.



### Central Kansas Market Grower & Vendor Workshop - February 4

Anyone interested in learning how to be a better farmers' market vendor or produce grower should attend this daylong workshop co-sponsored by K-State Research & Extension (KSRE) and the Kansas Department of Agriculture. Sessions will cover information for any market vendor as well as information on growing produce in Kansas. Workshop topics will include: Beginning High Tunnels, Morel Mushroom Identification Certification, Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program Training, K-State Variety Trial Results, Production of Uncommon Fruits, Resources for Farmers Markets, On-Farm Mobile Cooling Technology, Growing Mushrooms to Sell, Regulations for Selling Meat, Eggs and Poultry Direct to Consumer, Keynote: Building Healthy Systems for Profitability, and Keynote: Pollinators and Organic Insect Management.

The workshop will be held at the KSRE Sedgwick County Extension Office, 7001 W. 21st Street in Wichita. Onsite registration will open at 8:15 a.m., the workshop will begin at 8:45 a.m. and conclude by 4 p.m. Registration includes lunch. Registration forms can be found at the Sedgwick County Extension office [website](#). For more information, contact Rebecca McMahon, Sedgwick County Extension office, at 316-660-0142 or [rmcmahon@ksu.edu](mailto:rmcmahon@ksu.edu).

### Partners in Progress: Biennial Conference for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence - February 6 & 7



The Kansas Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence (KCADSV) will be hosting the Partners in Progress: 2nd Biennial Conference for the Prevention of Sexual and Domestic Violence on February 6 - 7 in Topeka. The event is a networking and learning opportunity for all those working to end sexual and domestic violence. Keynote speakers will include Jean Kilbourne, author, filmmaker and National Women's Hall of Fame inductee, and Sarah Deer, author, legal scholar and MacArthur Fellow. The conference will have four tracks: social change; community organizing and mobilization; schools and campuses; and leadership development. More information about the event including an [agenda](#), [workshop descriptions](#) and registration details are available [online](#). Contact Jamie Wallen with questions at 785-232-9784 ext.326 or [jwallen@kcsdv.org](mailto:jwallen@kcsdv.org).

### Webinar - Electronic Health Records to Advance Chronic Disease Surveillance - February 6

The 2016 Public Health Informatics (PHI) Conference provided a forum for exploring the interconnected world of health information technology and sharing innovative ideas on how [public health informatics](#) is expanding access to care and improving community health. In order to advance that conversation, the National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) is [hosting a webinar series](#) focused on public health informatics as a critical tool to address public health threats and advance public health practice. The first webinar in the series, Electronic Health Records to Advance Chronic Disease Surveillance, will be held on February 6, 1 - 2:00 p.m. Further details on the webinar are available on [NACCHO's website](#).

### Webinar - A Health in All Policies Approach to Performance Improvement - February 8



The National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) is hosting the A Health in All Policies Approach to Performance Improvement webinar on February 8 at 11 - 12 p.m. This webinar will explore how a health in all policies (HiAP) approach can be used to support performance improvement at the local level. The webinar will explore how HiAP informs strategic planning, community health assessment and improvement planning and how to align strategic priorities with county-level initiatives. Participants will learn strategies for working with local elected officials, ways to connect HiAP to accreditation efforts and how to use HiAP to support internal organizational development. Register for the webinar [online](#).

### Webinar - Understanding Data and Prevention Strategies for Addressing Suicide Deaths Among Children Ages 10-14 - February 8



The Injury Control Research Center for Suicide Prevention will be hosting a webinar February 8, 1 - 2 p.m. focusing on addressing suicide deaths among children ages 10 - 14. The suicide rate among U.S. middle school-aged children doubled between 2007 and 2014, according to data released in 2016 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). For the first time in 2014, the death rate due to suicide in this age range was the same as for injuries resulting from motor vehicle traffic crashes. While the number of suicide deaths is low when compared to other age groups, any death by suicide is a tragedy felt by family, friends and society. Moreover, the trend of suicide deaths among middle school-aged children indicates a growing public health problem that must be understood and addressed by researchers and practitioners.

In this webinar, Sally Curtin, an author of a recently released CDC data report on the increase in suicide in the nation, will describe the trends in injury and violence-related deaths among children and youth and explain the data on suicide deaths in children ages 10-14. Jeffrey Hill, Violence and Injury Prevention Program Manager and Youth Suicide Prevention Project Manager in Rhode Island, will describe elements of Rhode Island's Suicide Prevention Initiative (SPI) and their use of surveillance data for targeted program efforts.

Register for the webinar [online](#). Space is limited for the webinar; interested parties are encouraged to register early. The meeting will be recorded with the recording and slides posted on the [website](#) after the webinar.

### Ebola Risk Communications Training - February 16



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment Preparedness Program invite you to participate in one of the upcoming Ebola Risk Communications Trainings. There are still a number of spots available for the training in Wichita on February 16. Content included in this training includes an introduction to risk and crisis communication, pre-crisis communication planning, effective messaging, communicating with the media and more. This training meets a requirement for the Local Health Department Ebola, Zika and Infectious Disease Supplemental Work Plan, Item 6. There will only be three more opportunities to participate in this training after the Wichita event: March 28 in Kansas City, March 29 in Topeka and April 5 in Garden City. Register for the course on [KS-TRAIN](#), Course ID#1065100. Contact Elisa Nehrbass at [Elisa.Nehrbass@ks.gov](mailto:Elisa.Nehrbass@ks.gov) or 785-296-1882 with questions.

### Webinar - Health at Home: Adult Smoking and ACEs in Multi-Unit Housing - February 17



The Association of State and Territorial Health Organizations (ASTHO) is hosting a webinar on February 17, 1:30 - 3 p.m. focusing on the intersection between adult smoking in multi-unit housing and adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and the opportunities for public health to collaborate across sectors. Eliminating indoor smoking is the only way to protect nonsmokers from the harmful effects of tobacco smoke. For residents of multi-unit housing, secondhand smoke can be a major concern, as it can migrate from other units and common areas and travel through doorways, cracks in walls, electrical lines, plumbing and ventilation systems. Secondhand smoke exposure is especially concerning for children, who are in a critical stage of development. This webinar will explore the perspectives across maternal and child health, tobacco prevention and control, health equity and injury prevention through an ASTHO Ask the Experts Virtual Session. The speakers will include Camara Jones, past American Public Health Association President, Darlene Huang, Tobacco Control Legal Consortium and Joan Gillece, National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors. Register for the webinar [online](#).

### CDC Grand Rounds Upcoming Sessions - 2017



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention conducts [monthly webinars](#) on current public health topics. Upcoming learning events include:

- February 21: Promoting Medication Adherence for Chronic Disease Prevention and Control
- March 21: Emerging Tick-Borne Pathogens

Free [continuing education credit](#) is available for Nurses, Physicians and Health Educators through the [CDC/ATSDR Training and Continuing Education Online system](#).

### 2017 Schedule Meetings and Conferences Impacting Local Public Health Agencies

[Click Here](#) to Access the Calendar

### Webinar - Breastfeeding in the Community: Leveraging Funds & Partnerships for Sustainability - February 22



The National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO) will be hosting the fourth webinar in the Public Health Breastfeeding Series on February 22, 1 - 2 p.m. The webinar will address how local health departments (LHDs) and community based organizations (CBOs) can amplify the impact and longevity of community breastfeeding promotion and support programs through skillful leveraging of funds and partnerships. In addition to an overview of the public health significance of leveraging to advance community health goals, participants will receive functional insight from front-line public health practitioners on their organizational experience leveraging finances and partnerships to implement community breastfeeding projects. Register for the webinar [online](#).

### 14th Annual POWER Conference - February 24



WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
WORKFORCE, PROFESSIONAL  
AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Wichita State University is hosting the 14th Annual POWER Conference on February 24 in Wichita. The conference is especially targeted towards social workers, law enforcement professionals, healthcare professionals, substance abuse counselors, criminal justice professionals and those in related fields. This year's theme is The Widening Gap: Challenges From the Front Lines of Social Work and will include sessions on substance abuse, community policing, homelessness, health policy, ethics and more. A complete listing of topics and session descriptions is available in the [conference brochure](#).

In order to receive the early bird registration rate, attendees must register by February 10. Continuing education units are available for the conference. Register [online](#) for the event. The registration fee includes contact hours, networking opportunities, breakfast and lunch.

### Webinar - Navigating Rural Health Resources - February 28



The Office of Primary Care & Rural Health will be hosting a webinar on February 28, 12:30-1:30 p.m. to provide information on a number of resources available. The featured speakers will include a representative from the Early Detection Works Program and from Blue Cross Blue Shield's Blue Health Initiatives. Please register for the webinar [online](#). For more information, please contact via e-mail at [ruralhealth@ks.gov](mailto:ruralhealth@ks.gov).

### Things That Bite, Sting and Other Summer Related Health Issues Webinar Series - March and April



AREA HEALTH  
EDUCATION  
CENTERS  
The University of Kansas  
Medical Center

Kansas University Medical Center Area Health Education Center (AHEC) will be offering a series of webinars throughout 2017 as a part of its Brown Bag Webinar Series. All webinars will be held at 12 - 1 p.m. The second webinar cluster of the 2017 Clinical Series will be the Things That Bite, Sting and Other Summer Related Health Issues Cluster. The webinar sessions will be held on March 7, 17, 21 and 28 and on April 4 and 11. Registration will be made available for each series. An individual may register to view the cluster on their own as the sole participant for \$50; organizational registration for an unlimited number of participants is \$100. All individuals will receive a continuing education certificate if continuing education is appropriate for that session and their discipline, otherwise the participants will receive a certificate of attendance. Continuing education credit is issued based on a completion of a verification attendance form for each session within the cluster. Other topics within the Clinical Series in 2017 will be the Mental Health Cluster, Geriatrics Cluster, Chronic Disease Management Cluster, Trends and Risky Behaviors of Adolescents and Young Adults Cluster and the Immunotherapies Cluster. For more information on the Brown Bag Webinar Series contact the AHEC Statewide Office at 620-235-4040.

### Webinar Series - Current Issues in Vaccines - March 22



Children's Hospital  
of Philadelphia  
Vaccine Education Center

The Vaccine Education Center (VEC) at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, together with the Pennsylvania chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, is offering a [Vaccine Webinar Series](#) for healthcare providers. The series is supported by the Thomas F. McNair Scott Endowed Research and Lectureship Fund. Each webinar within the series will present topics being addressed by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), covered by the media or asked by parents. Specific topics will be available on the registration page approximately one to two weeks before each event. Each presentation will be 40 to 45 minutes, followed by 15 to 20 minutes of audience questions. Continuing education credits are available for attendees. The next webinar in the series will be held on March 22, 11 - 12 p.m. More information on the webinar series is available on the National Association of County & City Health Officials [website](#).

### 2017 Tobacco Treatment Specialist Core Certification Training - March 28



KU  
SCHOOL OF  
MEDICINE  
The University of Kansas

The University of Kansas Medical Center is partnering with Healthy Communities Wyandotte to bring the highly reputable Tobacco Treatment Specialist (TTS) training from the University of Massachusetts to Kansas. The TTS Core Training is an intensive, evidence-based training program designed for those who deliver moderate to intensive tobacco treatment services. The curriculum was designed to address a set of core competencies for tobacco treatment specialists defined by the [Association for the Treatment of Tobacco Use and Dependence](#) (ATTUD). The in-person training will be held on March 28 - 31 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. in Kansas City. Prior to the in-person training participants must complete a nine module online course. Fifteen scholarships are available for those who work in behavioral health settings in Wyandotte County. Questions about the program or registration can be addressed to Amanda Grodie at [AGrodie@kumc.edu](mailto:AGrodie@kumc.edu) or 913-588-2761. Continuing education credits are available for [select disciplines](#).



### CDC Virtual Training: Vector Control for Environmental Health Professionals



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and partners recently announced a [new virtual training](#), Vector Control for Environmental Health Professionals (VCEHP), which focuses on using integrated pest management (IPM) to control vectors that spread pathogens, including Zika virus. Nine in ten pilot testers said they would recommend this training to a colleague.

The training is:

- Free and Flexible: Take the courses you want, when you want.
- Credible: Learn the latest science and evidence from vector control experts.
- Practical: Access concrete principles, practices and resources from vector control.

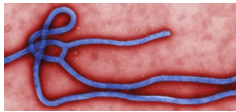
The National Environmental Health Association will be offering continuing education units (CEUs) for the courses.

Course topics include:

- Vector-borne diseases, IPM basics, pesticide toxicology.
- Performance assessment and improvement for your vector control program.
- Biology and control of bedbugs, ticks, rodents and mosquitoes.
- Vector control in specific locations like schools, restaurants and hotels.
- Risk management communication.

More information about the course is available [online](#), including a [recent article](#) about the training. Register for the courses [online](#).

### Preparedness Program Develops Ebola Online Course



The Preparedness Program at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment has developed an online course, [KDHE: Ebola and Other Infectious Diseases - Cleaning and Disinfecting Procedures, Course ID# 1067247](#) to meet public health workforce competency requirements and Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Local Public Health Ebola Supplemental Grant deliverables. It will meet work plan item 5 for those who receive the grant. The course is also beneficial for new employee orientation training, or as a refresher for healthcare personnel. At the conclusion of the one hour training you will be able to apply the proper cleaning and disinfecting procedures for the Ebola virus and other infectious diseases.

### Addressing Tobacco Use in Kansas: The Brief Tobacco Intervention



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Bureau of Health Promotion has made a new online training available on [KS-TRAIN](#) for health care providers focusing on strategies for effectively addressing tobacco use with patients in less than 3 minutes. The online course, KanQuit!: Tobacco Intervention, [Course ID# 1063295](#), also provides health care providers with information about the Kansas Tobacco Quitline. The Kansas Tobacco Quitline is a free, state-of-the-art tobacco cessation service. Continuing education units are available upon completion of the course for a number of different health professionals.

### Let's Move! Child Care: Promoting Physical Activity in Early Childhood Education



Let's Move! Child Care is a national, web-based initiative that supports child care providers in helping kids get off to a healthy start. Participating child care providers who meet all five, Let's Move! Child Care goals can earn recognition. This training focuses on the goal to get kids moving. Children ages three to five years should have two or more hours of active play time throughout the day. Children ages one to two years should have at least one hour of active play time throughout the day. Non-crawling infants should have short periods of "tummy time" every day.

After completing this training, you will be able to identify and implement best practices for promoting physical activity among the children served by an Early Childhood Education (ECE) child care center or day care home. The target audience for this training is ECE Infant Staff, ECE Preschool Staff, ECE Toddler Staff, Licensed Day Care Home and Group Day Care Home Staff, Program Director/Administrator. The child care Core Competency is Health, Safety and Nutrition Sub Area, Responding to Health Needs of Children, Level 2. This is a new free course for ECE Professionals with one clock hour credit for those that successfully complete the course.

To take the course, login to your account, or create one on [KS-TRAIN](#) and search for the applicable course number, Child Care Centers, Course ID# 1063970 or Day Care Homes, Course ID# 1064944. For questions about the course, contact Kate Hoppe at 785-291-3583 or [kate.hoppe@ks.gov](mailto:kate.hoppe@ks.gov).

For information on other Kansas Department of Health and Environment approved Child Care courses that are posted to KS-TRAIN click [here](#).

## News and Resources



### U.S. Cities Move to Curb Lead Poisoning Following Reuters Report

Cities and towns across the United States are taking action after a Reuters report identified thousands of communities where children tested with lead poisoning at higher rates than in Flint, Michigan. Throughout the country, local leaders, health officials and researchers are advancing measures to protect children from the toxic threat, including more blood-lead screening, property inspections, hazard abatement and [community outreach programs](#).

### Vaccine Exemptions are on the Rise in a Number of US States

**STAT** On the whole, fewer US families have opted out of school-required immunizations in recent years, thanks in part to stricter state laws. But data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicate that, while nonmedical exemptions (which includes religious and philosophical opposition) are on the decline nationally, they're rising in certain states, including states that haven't previously been considered hotbeds of anti-vaccination sentiment - which may put those areas at [risk of a disease outbreak](#).

### Maternity Leave Isn't Getting More Popular

**TIME** The number of women taking [maternity leave](#) in the United States has not changed over the last two decades, according to a new study, even as the national economy has grown and new family-leave policies have been implemented in three states. However, the number of men taking paternity leave more than tripled during the same period.

### Job Postings

#### Geary County Health Department

- [Licensed Practical Nurse \(LPN\)](#)
- [Health Nurse I - RN](#)
- [Student Dietetic Experience](#)

#### Kansas Health Matters

- [AmeriCorps VISTA](#)

#### Marion County Health Department

- [Full Time County Staff Nurse](#)

#### Pottawatomie County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse \(RN\)](#)

#### Reno County Health Department

- [Home Health Aide/Certified Nurse Aide](#)

#### Riley County Health Department

- [Health Educator](#)

#### Sedgwick County Health Department

- [Senior Administrative Officer | Healthy Babies](#)
- [Community Liaison Home Visitor | Healthy Babies](#)
- [Mobile Immunization Nurse](#)



Career opportunities at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment can be found [here](#).

### Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

[Epi Updates Newsletter](#)  
[Green Guide](#)  
[Health Homes Herald](#)  
[KanCare Advisor](#)  
[Kansas Environmental News](#)  
[Kansas Health Statistics Report](#)

[Sammelweis Times](#)  
[Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program](#)  
[Newborn Screening Newsletter](#)  
[Nutrition and WIC Update](#)  
[Oral Health Newsletter](#)  
[What's Happening Wednesday \(Immunization\)](#)

### Public Health Connections Information

To receive the monthly E-Newsletter, email [phc@kdheks.gov](mailto:phc@kdheks.gov).  
 Previous issues of Public Health Connections may be found at  
[http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public\\_health\\_connections.htm](http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public_health_connections.htm).

Send your public health news to  
 Katie Mahuron at [katie.mahuron@ks.gov](mailto:katie.mahuron@ks.gov).